

1996. Based on the PCT filing date of the present invention, September 18, 1997, Applicants respectfully assert that *Hentilä et al.* cannot be applied as prior art under 35 USC § 102(e) against the present application. As such, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection of claim 1-13 is improper and should be withdrawn.

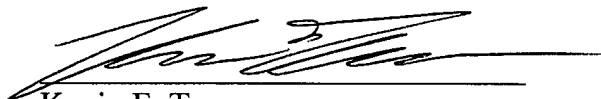
In passing, Applicants also note that *Hentilä et al.* cites the PCT publication of *Hentilä et al.* as having been published on January 16, 1997. In an effort to expedite prosecution of the present invention, Applicants also submit herewith a verified translation of Finnish Patent Appln. No. 963722, upon which a claim of foreign priority has been made. Receipt of a certified copy of the foreign priority document was previously acknowledged by the Office in Paper #6. Given the verified translation, Applicant submits that the foreign priority document provides sufficient disclosure to support the present claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Having perfected priority, Applicant respectfully asserts that the PCT publication of *Hentilä et al.* also cannot be applied as prior art against the present application.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-13 are now in condition for allowance. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow the application to proceed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Verified Translation of Finnish Patent Appln. No. 963722
Revocation and New Power of Attorney